# The Commission is the only state agency that advocates on behalf of all people with disabilities

The Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns seeks to change what it means to be a person with a disability in Michigan by promoting greater understanding of the abilities of people with disabilities.







Appointed in 1949 by Governor G. Mennen Williams and established under state law by P.A. 11 in 1968, the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns (MCDC) serves as the only state agency which responds to issues impacting all of Michigan's 1.9 million citizens with disabilities. Twenty-one Governor appointed Commissioners serve in an advisory capacity and provide the perspectives of people with disabilities, the business community, and professional service providers. Located within the Commission is the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

# We Can Help! Contact Us

# Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth

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## Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns



#### **Mission**

To provide statewide leadership to empower and integrate people with disabilities into all aspects of society.









# Promoting awareness, self-determination and independence

The Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns Serves as a Statewide Advocate and an Information and Technical Assistance Source for Employers, State and Local Government, People with Disabilities, Families, and the General Public

### INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Conducts Legislative Workshops providing resources to assist Legislators in responding to constituent inquiries related to disability issues.
- Provides disability rights training including the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act.
- Provides Information and Technical Assistance.
- Maintains the Michigan Disability Resource Directory www.midisability.org

#### **SPECIALIZED TRAININGS**

- Presents disability sensitivity and awareness workshops.
- Conducts general workshops and seminars related to hearing loss issues through the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY SUPPORT

- Coordinates activities of the Michigan Business Leadership Network (MBLN).
   MBLN brings together business leaders to help employers find and hire skilled Michigan workers with disabilities.
- Conducts activities to increase employment options for people with disabilities.
- Conducts Employment Opportunity Workshops for recipients of Supplemental Security Income.
- Advocates for accessible, affordable, available employment supports.

#### COMMUNICATION

- Administers the Quality Assurance (QA) program for interpreters through the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
- Provides trainings and demonstrations in the use of hearing assistive technology.

#### LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR YOUTH

- Conducts Michigan Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) for high school students with disabilities. Successful men and women with disabilities serve as mentors, helping students to realize their abilities as well as their right and responsibility to pursue meaningful employment and contribute to society.
- Promotes mentoring of high school students with disabilities by employers in the field of the student's choice.
   Students observe employers on the job where they learn the connection between school and work and explore career paths and personal leadership needed to acquire necessary education and skills.

